

Thank you for your support of these provisions. We hope to be of continuing assistance throughout the reauthorization process.

Sincerely,

Bill Graves.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF PORT AUTHORITIES,  
Alexandria, VA, June 27, 2012.

Hon. JANICE HAHN,  
House of Representatives,  
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington,  
DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HAHN: We write this letter today to voice the American Association of Port Authorities' (AAPA) strong support for your motion to instruct the conferees to agree to the freight policy provisions in MAP 21. AAPA promotes the common interests of the port community and provides leadership on trade, transportation, environmental and other issues related to port development and operations. The creation of a national freight policy is one of AAPA's top policy goals for surface transportation authorization. These provisions are important to seaports' ability to efficiently connect America to the global economy and help our nation plan for future freight growth. A recent Corps of Engineers study noted that over the next 30 years, the U.S. population is expected to increase 32 percent, while imports should increase fourfold and exports (so critical to our economic growth) are projected to see a sevenfold increase. These freight provisions are important to our ability to plan for this increased trade and avoid gridlock.

AAPA urges Congress to support the provisions in MAP 21 which provide for a national freight program and policy in the surface transportation authorization bill. Freight and goods movement often cross state lines and are best planned for in more comprehensive ways. This transportation bill aims to reform our transportation programs and including freight is critical to developing a system focused on the needs of the future.

Now more than ever, the needs of our goods movement network must be addressed as system use continues to grow in lockstep with America's recovering economy. The inclusion of a national freight plan with supporting policies, strategy and funding will help ensure America's international competitiveness, create jobs and bolster the U.S. economic recovery.

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues.

Sincerely,

KURT J. NAGLE.

Mr. DENHAM. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This motion instructs conferees to the surface transportation reauthorization conference to agree to several provisions in the Senate bill relating to freight policy. As I'm sure you're aware, the conferees and their staffs have been working around the clock, and it is our hope to file a bipartisan, bicameral agreement as soon as possible.

This agreement is aimed to tackle serious issues facing the infrastructure of the United States, which is the utmost importance to the stability and future growth of the American economy.

As soon as it's filed, I encourage the gentlewoman from California to review the conference report and take special note of the freight policy language that a majority of the House and majority of the Senate conferees chose to include.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HAHN. I appreciate my colleague from California saying that. But, again, I have letters of support from major organizations who felt like the freight policy language was not as good as the Senate bill. Just to make clear, the freight policy in the Senate bill does not increase the total cost of the bill. And by leaving the provisions that I talked about out of the final bill, we're not reducing the cost of the bill, and we're not reducing the deficit.

I just think the Senate language really sets forth something that I think we've never done in this country, and that's really to prioritize and to understand the importance of moving forward and being competitive in this global economy and establishing once and for all a comprehensive freight policy that will put goods-movement at a level that I think it should be.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DENHAM. I am prepared to close if the gentlelady is prepared to yield back.

Ms. HAHN. I am ready to close, too. The hour is late. For those of you watching C-SPAN, it's nearing the final hour of the day. It's past 11 p.m. But I really did feel like one of the reasons I did come to Congress was to raise the level of importance of our ports, of goods movement, of cargo, what it means to this economy, what it means to jobs, and I just wanted to give it one last shot that we might instruct the conferees to include what I think is the better language in the final transportation bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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Mr. DENHAM. Madam Speaker, I will just close by saying that I can appreciate the gentlewoman from California's passion on this issue. I, too, see the great ports of California and throughout the Nation and the need to have an overall freight policy, and I look forward to working with her in the future on this very important issue.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. HAHN. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 33. An act to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to specify when certain securities issued in connection with church plans are treated as exempted securities for purposes of that Act.

H.R. 2297. An act to promote the development of the Southwest waterfront in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 3187. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs and medical devices, to establish user-fee programs for generic drugs and biosimilars, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DENHAM. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, June 28, 2012, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first and second quarters of 2012 pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows: